

CERA-236

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Uwe Bunz, et al.
Serial No. : Please assign
Filing Date : Herewith
For : CERAMIC SANDWICH INSERT FOR AN ARTIFICIAL HIP JOINT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 4, 2002

Pre/a

JAN 29 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-12, without prejudice and add the following claims:

13. Sandwich insert having an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastics cover for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint, characterized in that the sliding cup has a stud at its outer end that is remote from the opening.
14. Sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud is arranged on the central axis of the sliding cup.
15. Sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 – 8 mm, preferably approximately 2 mm.
16. Sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud is arranged in the plastics cover by means of a fit.
17. Sandwich insert according to claim 13, wherein the stud projects into the plastics cover or projects completely through it.